REMARKS

Claims 6-9 and 18-19 are pending in the application. Claims 11-16 have been withdrawn from prosecution. Reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and arguments herein is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The examiner has indicated that claims 18-19 are allowable. Applicants respectfully thank the examiner for this determination.

Rejection of independent claim 6

Claims 6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent number 6,459,780 to Wurster, et al ("Wurster") in view of U.S. patent number 5,651,053 to Mitchell ("Mitchell"). According to the office action, Wurster discloses a service node operable in a telecommunications system for implementing a call control service for managing call delivery to a subscriber of the type defined by claim 1. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested for the reasons stated below.

First, according to the office action, "Wurster teaches the claimed redirecting element field because all SS7 messages use a redirecting number. The redirecting number identifies the number that forwarded the call."

Claim 6 has been amended slightly to emphasize the distinction between the invention defined by this claim and the conventional SS7 signalling as described by Wurster. Specifically, claim 6 as amended recites "a redirecting element field set to a predetermined directory number uniquely associated with the call control service" *(emphasis added)*. As explained at page 10, lines 18-26 and especially lines 25-26 of the present application, in the exemplary embodiment, the service node (CSN) originates a new call including a setup message with SS7 component Redirecting Element 1 set to "a unique 10 digit number assigned to the Total Control service" *(emphasis added)*.

Thus, the present invention shows a new way to use the conventional Redirecting Element data fields of a call setup message to provide a novel and unobvious capability in an AIN system. Rather than use the data that is conventionally placed in the Redirecting Element field, the service node (CSN) of claim 6 instead places useful call processing data in the field. As noted at page 10, lines 27-30 of the present application, "Reconfiguring the redirecting element in this manner will allow the SCP service logic to determine that the call is from the CSN and should be presented to the subscriber, rather than forwarded back to the CSN."

Thus, the conventional data fields of an SS7 call setup message are used but in a modified form which is unique and which allows enhanced functionality. As noted, claim 6 has been amended slightly to emphasize these aspects of the claimed invention. The features of independent claim 6 are not disclosed in Wurster or Mitchell.

Second, the office action asserts that "Wurster discloses a service node (see Figure 1)..." and that the service node comprises the first second and third computer codes recited in claim 6. It is submitted that actually Wurster shows in Figure 1 a "communication system 100" including a service switching point (SSP) or switch 102 and an intelligent peripheral or IP 104, coupled using an SS7 channel. Column 4, line48 - column 5, line26.

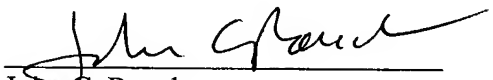
However, the functions performed in Wurster's system 100 are not performed by the intelligent peripheral or service node 104, as required by claim 6 ("A service node operable in a telecommunications system for implementing a call control service..."). Wurster discloses at column 7, lines 20-25, "In step 306, in response to a call to customer premises 117, the switch 102 initiates a call processing instruction request to the SCP 106. As part of the request, the switch 102 passes called identification information..." *(emphasis added).* Thus, the switch in Wurster's system is processing the call.

In contrast, claim 6 is limited to a service node (CSN or SN/IP) which includes the described computer code for processing the call. As quoted above, claim 6 is limited to "a service node...." Claim 6 further recites one portion of the service node, "first computer code to detect caller identification information for a call ... routed to the service node...." Claim 6 further recites "second computer code to provide a caller identifier ... for a new call placed from the service node to the called communication station...." Emphasis is added in all quotations.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 6 discloses limitations not shown in Wurster or Mitchell, taken alone or in combination. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 6 is patentable over these references. Reconsideration of claim 6 as amended is respectfully requested. Claims 7-9 are dependent from claim 6 and add further limitations thereto. These claims are submitted to be allowable for the same reasons.

With this response, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the examiner deem a telephone conference to be of assistance in advancing the application to allowance, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



John G. Rauch
Registration No. 37,218
Attorney for Applicant

April 25, 2005
BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610
(312) 321-4200